

**From:** Steven P. Cornett  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 8:09am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Gentlemen:

I am writing you to register my disdain over the proposed settlement of the Department of Justice anti-trust case against Microsoft. Having followed this issue from the beginning, I believe that Microsoft is the most shameless and unrepentent monopolist since AT&T and Standard Oil, and yet the 'settlement,' for perhaps 'sellout' or 'carpet sweeping' would be a better term for it, gives a wink and a nod to them to continue to drive all competition out of every segment of the information industry.

The worst part of this settlement is that your attorney's, while making statements to the press about "seeking relief for unlawful behavior", did nothing of the sort and had to \*know\* that they did nothing of the sort. This still allows Microsoft to keep its operating systems and office software operations in one company, keeps the API (the system calls needed to interface to Windows) safely in Bill Gates' back pocket, and allows them to expand their monopoly into any segment of the computing industry they do not already have dominance over and to use the strategies they've used to lock in the PC industry.

I'm sure you heard from many, including I suspect many Microsoft sycophants chanting about 'freedom to innovate,' as well as many others. However, this issue is not about innovation; if this settlement goes through innovation is the \*last\* thing that will happen in the information industry for a long time to come. Therefore I am asking you to reject this 'settlement' and formulate a punishment that fits the crime, and truly gives relief to the industry that has been damaged by the expanding Microsoft monopoly.

Yours Truly  
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